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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,960	06/25/2003	Joe P. Crookham	P04049US2	3716
22885 7590 03/06/2008 MCKEE, VOORHEES & SEASE, P.L.C. 801 GRAND AVENUE SUITE 3200 DES MOINES, IA 50309-2721			EXAMINER DOAN, KIET M	
			ART UNIT 2617	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 03/06/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/603,960

Applicant(s)

CROOKHAM ET AL.

Examiner

Kiet Doan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 January 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5,8,10,14-25,45,46 and 48-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5,8,10,14-25,45,46 and 48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06/25/03 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114*

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 01/10/2008 has been entered.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 14-25, 45, 46, 48-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alt et al. (US 5,898,384) in view of Gordin et al. (US 4,712,167).

Consider **claims 1 and 45** with recited similar limitation . Alt teaches an apparatus for controlling a-wide-area lighting at a plurality of different sites to be illuminated comprising:

a) a plurality of wide area lighting systems each on-site at a different site, each on-site wide area lighting system comprising (Abstract, C5, L32-35 teach controlling system for

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remotely controlling plurality of electrical device, C7, L45-60 further teach the plurality of different site such as sign boards lighting, parking lot lighting located thousands mile apart which teach in C3, L13-20).

b) a central control system comprising:

i. an off-site central controller including a database of events or conditions related to each lighting system (C11, L20-50, C13, L25-60, Fig.2, Illustrate control computer 21 which read on central control system wherein located off-site and contain program/database to control the lighting of sign board 10);

ii. an on-site remote device controller for each lighting system, the remote controller operably connected to each set of light source and ballast circuits of each wide-area system (C10, L5-60, Fig.1, Illustrate control unit 16 which read on "on-site remote device controller" wherein connected to each light source, further described in Fig.2) ;

iii. a communication link to communicate data from the central controller to each remote controller related to a function of the corresponding lighting system and an event or condition for the lighting system or any array of the lighting system; so that a single on-site, remote controller, in communication with an off-site central controller, can control multiple arrays of high voltage lights (C11, L20-67, C12, L1- C13, L25-60, Fig.1 and Fig.2 Illustrate the communication from transceiver of computer 21 to remote control unit 16 wherein controlling multiple arrays of high voltage lights). Alt teaches the limitation of claim as discuss **but silent on**

i. a plurality of arrays of lighting fixtures;

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ii. each array comprising a set of high intensity light sources and ballast circuits adapted to be switched to connect or disconnect to a relatively high voltage power source.

In an analogous art, Gordin teaches "Remote control, moveable lighting system".

Further, **Gordin teaches**

i. a plurality of arrays of lighting fixtures (C8, L47-50, Fig.1 and Fig.9 illustrate lighting array frame wherein contain plurality of luminaries unit light) ;

ii. each array comprising a set of high intensity light sources and ballast circuits adapted to be switched to connect or disconnect to a relatively high voltage power source (C4, L40-57 teach the power source on board generator 16 with provide electric power to luminaries unit light through ballast 20 wherein contain power switching circuit 40 for turning or switching on and off which read on switched to connect or disconnect to a relatively high voltage power).

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time that the invention was made that person having ordinary skill in the art to modify Alt and Gordin system, such that controlling wide area lighting at plurality different site to be illuminate by using central control system from off site to provide means for the convenient and cost saving by controlling lighting in different location without sending out technician to adjust or setup timing, scheduling.

Consider **claims 2, 16, 46, 54**. Alt teaches the apparatus of claim 1 and similar limitation in claims 16, 46, 54 wherein the database comprises a schedule of events (C10, L5-30 control unit received programming as read on schedule of events).

Consider **claim 4**. Alt teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein the network device is computers or network of computers (Fig.2, Illustrate No.21 and described).

Consider **claim 5**. Alt teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein the remote device comprises a digital controller (C13, L46-65).

Consider **claims 10, 25, 49**. Alt teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein the communications link comprises a wide area network (C3, L13-20).

Consider **claims 13, 17, 18, 20, 50**. Alt teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein the remote device includes a cellular receiver (C12, L38-47, Fig.2, No.20 and No.22 Illustrate).

Consider **claim 14**. Alt teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said data comprises instructions (C10, L5-8 teach programming as read on instructions).

Consider **claim 15**. Alt teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said instructions include one or more of the set comprising turn on, turn off (C10, L5-20).

Consider **claims 21-24**. Alt teaches the apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a component to revise said database (C10, L5-8, C11, L10-25).

Consider **claims 51**. Alt teaches the system of claim 45 wherein said data relates to instructions regarding the operation of an electrical load (C6, L30-41).

Consider **claim 52**. Alt teaches the system of claim 45 wherein the customer device is related to one or more of the set comprising cellular phone, internet connected computer, fax machine, and telephone (C12, L38-47, Fig.2, No. 22).

Consider **claims 8, 19, 48, 53**. Gordin teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein the wide-area lighting device comprises sports lighting or security lighting (C2, L18-25, Fig.1 teach and illustrate mobile variable lighting device 10 which obviously can be use for sports light or security light).

### ***Conclusion***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KIET DOAN whose telephone number is (571)272-7863. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am - 5pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Appiah N. Charles can be reached on 571-272-7904. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kiet Doan/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

  
JOSEPH FEILD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER